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Build your Own Rain Barrel with the Chittenden County Stream Team this April

Colchester, VT - Despite the snow, Vermonters know that spring is right around the corner. It is the perfect time to start thinking about incorporating the use of a rain barrel to reduce harmful stormwater runoff AND reuse rainwater for lawn and landscaping needs! Join the Chittenden County Stream Team and Colchester Conservation Commission who are hosting a Build-A-Rain Barrel workshop on April 17th at 5:30 pm at the Bayside Activity Center in Colchester, VT.

At this workshop, participants will build their own rain barrel and learn how to properly install and maintain it at home. Water captured in rain barrels not only provides an additional source of water for watering lawns and gardens, and cleaning cars and tools, it also minimizes stormwater runoff.

When it rains, stormwater moves quickly over impervious surfaces such as buildings and roads, picking up pollutants including nutrients, sediment, oil, chemicals, road salt, and metals as it goes. According to the Lake Champlain Basin Program [2012 State of the Lake report](#), “on an acre-by-acre average basis, developed land can contribute up to *four times* more phosphorus than agricultural land”; a statistic that demands attention in consideration of the nutrient pollution and algal blooms that currently plague Lake Champlain. By using rain barrels you can save water, save money, and save your local streams all at the same time!

To sign up for this event please contact Holly Kreiner at holly@winooskinrcd.org or call 802-288-8155 Ext. 104. The registration deadline is **Monday, April 10th** and participation is limited to 20 people. The cost is \$30, which covers the cost of the rain barrel and hardware. Sign up today!

The Chittenden County Stream Team (CCST) is a project to engage citizens across a nine-town area (Burlington, Essex, Essex Junction, Milton, Shelburne, South Burlington, Williston, Colchester and Winooski) to implement projects that reduce nonpoint source pollution and stormwater volume at the local level. The program is managed by the [Chittenden County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer designated towns](#) and run by the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District.